

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 03575 041447Z

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 L-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 /032 W

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R 041400Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6142

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3575

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNWFP, FAO

SUBJ: BULA HOYOS NO LONGER ACTIVE CANDIDATE FOR EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

FODAG

1. ALTHOUGH ONE DEVELOPED COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE HAS RECENTLY REPORTED RUMOR - PROBABLY PERPETUATED RUMOR - THAT FAO COUNCIL CHAIRMAN GONZALO BULO HOYOS IS CANDIDATE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM, MORE RELIABLE INFORMATION INDICATES HE NO LONGER CONSIDERS HIMSELF ACTIVE CANDIDATE. HE SAID THAT TO CLOSE FREIND AMONG COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES THREE DAYS AGO. FRIEND'S ASSESSMENT IS THAT BULA HOYOS WOULD ACCEPT POSITION IF OFFERED - IN FACT HE SAID SO - BUT IS NOT PRESENTING HIMSELF AS CANDIDATE ANY LONGER. THIS MAY BE DUE TO FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA'S DESIRE - EXPRESSED PRIVATELY TO TWO COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES - TO SUBORDINATE WFP FURTHER TO FAO, AND PLACE WFP UNDER AN FAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL. THIS INTENTION WOULD MAKE IT AWKWARD FOR ANY MAN WITH AMBITION TOWARD STILL HIGHER OFFICE - WHICH BULA HOYOS CLEARLY HAS - TO PRESENT HIMSELF TO SAOUMA AS CANDIDATE.

2. THERE ARE MANY LITTLE EVIDENCES OF GROWING FRICTION, WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED, BETWEEN AUTHORITY-CONSCIOUS DIRECTOR-GENERAL SAOUMA AND THE VERY INDEPENDENT AND TOO OFTEN PRESENT COUNCIL
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PAGE 02 ROME 03575 041447Z

CHAIRMAN BULA HOYOS. SAOUMA HAS DIRECTED DE CAPRONA (HEAD OF

CONFERENCE AND GENERAL AFFAIRS) BY MEMORANDUM TO REPORT DIRECTLY TO SAOUMA ON ALL MATTERS, WITH SPECIFIED EXCEPTIONS, TRIVIA SUCH AS CONTRACTS WITH INTERPRETERS. THIS CUTS SHORT BULA HOYOS' CONTINUED DIRECTION OF DE CAPRONA. ON PERSONAL LEVEL, BULA HOYOS PRESSED SAOUMA EXTREMELY TO ATTEND HIS MARCH 3 LUNCHEON FOR WORKING PARTY ON FAO COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES, ALTHOUGH SAOUMA WAS SCHEDULED TO HOST ANOTHER ONCE-DEFERRED LUNCHEON HIMSELF. BULA HOYOS WON, AND SAOUMA CAME TO HIS LUNCHEON, BUT THAT KIND OF VICTORY OVER SAOUMA IS RARELY A LOSS. CONFLICT HAS ALSO DEVELOPED DIRECTLY OUT OF THEIR OFFICIAL ROLES, WITH BULA HOYOS FOR GOOD REASON PRESSING SAOUMA TO APPROVE AGENDA FOR JULY FAO COUNCIL, AND SAOUMA FOR EQUALLY GOOD REASON RESPONDING THAT HE IS NOT IN POSITION YET TO DO SO. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING CHAIRMAN, ELECTION CANDIDATES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME03575
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760083-0500
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760395/aaaadfni.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BULA HOYOS NO LONGER ACTIVE CANDIDATE FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM
TAGS: PORG, EAGR, APER, FAO, UN, (BULA HOYOS, GONZALO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006